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Secrets. IX-27—200,000—21-5-51.

Firka Development (1948) Department.

MS SERIES

G.O. No. 528

Dated 18 8 1948

[Despatch Abstract.]

Rural Reconstruction - Intensive work in selected firkas and centres - Scheme - Firka Development Staff - Recommendations of the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee - Papers recorded

FIRKA DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT:

NOTE FOR THE CABINET.

Sub: Rural Reconstruction- Intensive work in selected firkas and centres - Scheme - Firka Development Staff - Recommendations of the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee -

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In connection with the working of the Government's intensive rural reconstruction scheme in the selected firkas an centres the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee at its meeting held on 23-12-1947 minuted that the staff working in the districts has been planned on a very wide basis, especially the strength of Firka Development Officers which wor out to six officers in each firka. The Committee considered this to be far too many and recommended that the work may be started with two officers per firka and that additiona officers might be appointed if necessary later on. The remarks of the Committee pertained to the followigng staff.

i) 34 Firka Development Officers (one for each firka or centre selected for intensive rural reconstruction work).
ii) 170 Village Development Officers (one for each group into which each firka or centre has been divided).
iii) 238 Posts of peons at the rate of 2 peons for each F.D.O. and one peon for each V.D.O.
iv) 9 Rural Recreation officers and Ballad singers in the non-prohibition districts.

A detailed examination of the staff employed *vis-a-vis* the Committee's recommendations was made. There is only one Firka Development Officer for each firka or centre. The Firka Development Officer acts as the pivot on whom the entire scheme of rural development in the firkas and centres depends. The Firka Development Officer has got to conduct surveys of villages, supervise the conduct of village surveys, prepare programmes of work in the firkas, watch the progress and execution of works and stimulate the spirit of self-help and co-operation among the villagers for the uplift of the villages. IT has therefore been considered that the posts of Firka Development Officers are quite essential and cannot be dispensed with.

Each Firka Development Officer is assisted by 4 or 5 Village Development Officers, one for each group into which each firka or centre has been divided. Even prior to the receipt of the Retrenchment Committee's recommendations the Government took upon themselves the question of effecting certain retrenchment in respect of these officers. While the question was under examination the Sub-Committee appointed by the Provincial Firka Development Board to draw up an overall plan for Firka Development work submitted its report. The Government have since generally accepted the schemes outlined by the committee and have passed necessary orders thereon. This plan contemplates several schemes involving various duties for a proper discharge of which the existing strength of Village Development Officers will be absolutely necessary. The connected file was circulated to H.Pr. and H.M.(Finance) for orders who accepted the suggestion that in the circumstances stated above, the question of retrenchment of the Village Development Officers need not be further pursued. In the circumstances the R.R.Committee's recommendations in this regard were not accepted by Govt.

Two posts of peons for each Firka Development Officer and one for each Village Development Officer had been sanctioned. There were in all 238 posts of peons. On the receipt of the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee a careful review of the need for the retentionof the peons was made. The H.Pr. and H.M.(Finance) minuted in this connection as follows:-

p.t.o.

"One peon is enough for Firka Development Officers. All Village Development Officers' peons may be abolished".

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orders have accordingly issued abolishing 204 posts peons.

There had been nine Rural Recreation Officers and nine Ballad Singers in the non-prohibition districts working in the Firka Development areas. Agreeably to the Committee's recommendations the posts of Rural Recreation Officers and Ballard Singers working under the Firka Development scheme were done away with.

The file dealing with the recommendations of the Retrnechment and Reorganisation Committee was circulated to the H.Pr., H.M.(Pro.) and the H.M.(Fin.) who have accepted the suggestions, in the light of which orders have already issued retrenching 204 posts of peons and 9 Rural Recreation Officers and Ballad Singers. As however it has since been ordered in circulation that all matters pertaining to any of the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee should be considered by the full Cabinet the above note is submitted for circulation to all the H.Ms.

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10-6-48.

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MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HELD AT FORT ST. GEORGE ON WEDNESDAY THE 7TH JULY 1948.

The Hon'ble the Premier presided.

PRESENT.

1. The Hon'ble Dr. T.S.S.Rajan.
2. -do- Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam.
3. -do- Sri B. Gopala Reddy.
4. -do- Sri H. Sitarama Reddy.
5. -do- Sri K. Chandramouli.
6. -do- Sri T.S. Avinashilingam.
7. -do- Sri K. Madhava Menon.
8. -do- Sri Kala Venkata Rao.
9. -do- Sri A.B. Shetty.
10. -do- Sri V. Kurmayya.
11. -do- Dr. S. Gurubatham.

AGENDA.

Rural Reconstruction - Intensive work in selected firkas and centres - Scheme - Firka Development staff - Recommendations of the Retrenchment and Re-organisation Committee.

O R D E R:

APPROVED.

O.P. Ramaswamy Reddy,
12.7.1948.

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14/7.

2360/F.D.II/48.

To A.S.

Submitted for perusal. No further action is called for. May be recorded as a Ms.G.O. after perusal by Finance (Re-organisation) Dept.

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Fin.R.& R.

May be perused and returned to Firka Dev.

xx C.O.C.

Fin.U.O.54981A/48Re-1. 2.8.48. 2-8-48.
2.2.48.

2360/F.D.II/48.

To A.S.

Finance (R.R.) Dept. have perused the case - Vide M at p.9 above. No further action is called for. May be recorded as G.O.Ms.528 F.D. d/18-8-48.

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17/8.

G.O.Ms.No.528 (F.D.) dated 18-8-1948.

Subject:-

R.R. - Intensive works in selected firkas and centres - Scheme - Firka Devpt. staff - Recommendations of the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee - Papers recorded.

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Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

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